

Youth Resource Connections

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Headlines

U.S. Department of Labor (DOL) Launches Three New Programs for Women. DOL's Women's Bureau recently launched three new pilot programs to help women succeed in the workplace. The three projects—Flex Options for Women, Wi\$e Up and GEM-Nursing will be launched in major cities around the country. For additional information visit:
<http://www.dol.gov/opa/media/press/wb/WB2004615.htm>.

The Employment and Training Administration (ETA) Proposes Local Area Survey for the Evaluation of the WIA Performance Measurement System. ETA is seeking approval from the Office of Management and Budget to collect data from Local Workforce Investment Areas on the performance measurement system enacted under the Workforce Investment Act. The data will be used to identify areas of concern with the current system and to inform the design of future data collection and performance measurement systems. For more information see the April 22 Federal Register at:
<http://a257.g.akamaitech.net/7/257/2422/14mar20010800/edocket.access.gpo.gov/2004/pdf/04-9122.pdf>.

The Employment and Training Administration (ETA) Releases Program Year (PY) 2004 Workforce Investment (WIA) Act Planning Guidance. ETA published Training and Employment Guidance Letter No. 21-03, to provide guidance to States for the Strategic Five-Year State Plans for Title I of the Workforce Investment Act of 1998 and the Wagner-Peyser Act. The guidance is designed to clarify issues surrounding early implementing states continuation of operations during PY 2004. It specifically relates to the ten states that were authorized to begin implementation of WIA in PY 1999. For more information visit:
http://wdr.doleta.gov/directives/corr_doc.cfm?DOCN=1564.

U.S. Department of Education's (DOEds) Secretary Rod Paige Announces Summer Reading Program. Secretary Paige announced the No Child Left Behind Summer Reading Achievers Program. The program is designed to encourage students in grades K-8 to read actively during the summer months to help prevent the loss of reading skills that often occurs during summer vacation. For more information and a list of participating sites visit:
<http://www.ed.gov/news/pressreleases/2004/04/04082004a.html>.

U.S. Department of Education (DOEd) Secretary Rod Paige Announces a New Initiative for Teachers. Secretary Paige announced a new Teacher-to-Teacher Initiative to engage some of the nation's best teachers and education experts in sharing techniques for raising student achievement. This initiative is designed to keep teachers informed of the latest strategies and research on educational practices that work in the classroom. The program includes: Teacher Roundtables, Summer Workshops, Research-to-Practice Summit, and Teacher E-mail Updates. Information about effective practices may be found at <http://www.teacherquality.us>. To learn more about this endeavor visit: <http://www.ed.gov/news/pressreleases/2004/04/04212004.html>; or contact Carolyn Snowbarger at (202) 401-1307.

Funding Opportunities

Duke Endowment Offers Funds to Improve After-School Programs. The Child-Care Division of the Duke Endowment is launching a three-year effort to improve the quality of existing after-school programs for children who are at-risk for abuse and neglect. Up to thirty after-school programs in North and South Carolina will participate in this effort. The funders will target programs that serve a high percentage of children ages 6-12, whose families are eligible for state subsidies and programs located in identified high need communities. Traditional beneficiaries of the Endowment that offer formal after-school program targeting at-risk children will be eligible to apply for grants. For additional information visit: <http://www.dukeendowment.org>.

Deadline: June 15.

The Corporation for National and Community Service Funds (NCS) CiviConnections Program. The CiviConnections program will support student exploration projects which focus on local history and community service activities. Classroom instructors identify a local concern or need and students investigate the issue through their community's history. Applications are being accepted from teams of three teachers in the same school district. Each teacher must teach at least 25 students in grades 3-12. For more information contact Travi Brown-Thomas at (301) 588-1800 ext. 106. **Deadline: April 30.**

National Geographic Society Education Foundation Offers Teacher Grants. The foundation provides grants to educators to facilitate their work in the classroom, school district, and community. Grant applications are accepted in the spring from any current teacher or administrator in an accredited K-12 school within the United States or Canada. The program will place emphasis on cultural connections in particular, projects that promote understanding of and respect for differences between cultures. Approximately \$100,000 is available to fund grants up to \$5,000 each. Applications may be submitted by a single teacher or by a project team leader on behalf of a group. For complete application guidelines go to: <http://www.nationalgeographic.com>. **Deadline: June 10.**

Lowe's Home Improvement Warehouse Awards Grants to Local Organizations. Lowe's will award grants to educational, environmental and community organizations through its charitable foundation. Interested persons should contact their local Lowe's store for more information or the foundation headquarters at Lowe's Charitable Foundation at (336) 658-5544. **Deadline: Proposals may be submitted at any time.**

Secretary of Labor Elaine Chao Announces Additional High Growth Job Training

Initiative Health Care Grants. Secretary Chao announced the recipients of \$13.5 million in High Growth Job Training grants that will be used to help prepare workers for skilled job in the health-care industry. These grants which address President Bush's' High Growth Job Training Initiative are part of a new \$24.3 million Health Care Initiative Secretary Chao kicked off in March. For additional information visit:

<http://www.dol.gov/opa/media/press/opa/OPA2004655.htm>.

The Office of Vocational and Adult Education (OVAE) at the U.S. Department of Education Announces Competitive Grant Opportunities. OVAE is accepting applications for new awards for fiscal year 2004 from Novice and Non-Novice Applicants for the Community Technology Centers (CTC) program. The CTC program is designed to assist eligible applicants create or expand community technology centers that provide disadvantaged residents of economically distressed urban and rural communities with access to information technology and related -training. For more information see the April 16 Federal register at:

<http://a257.g.akamaitech.net/7/257/2422/14mar20010800/edocket.access.gpo.gov/2004/pdf/04-8660.pdf>. **Deadline: June 16.**

Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) Announces New Competitive Grant Programs. HRSA released a mini-preview of new competitive grant programs for fiscal year 2004. These grants were not included in full HRSA Preview published September 4, 2003. The HRSA preview consolidates HRSA's discretionary grants announcements, so that the general public will have a single source of program and application information. Several programs emphasis include: workforce development, community college and local workforce investment board Involvement. For additional information see the April 20 Federal Register at:

<http://a257.g.akamaitech.net/7/257/2422/14mar20010800/edocket.access.gpo.gov/2004/pdf/04-8889.pdf>. **See application guidance for deadline requirements.**

Opportunities for Youth

PacifiCare Latino Health Scholars Program to Award Scholarships to Bilingual, Bicultural Students. Scholarships are available for Spanish-speaking, bicultural high-school students who want to pursue careers in the healthcare industry. Scholarships are available for students in eight states: Arizona, California, Colorado, Nevada Oklahoma, Oregon, Texas, and Washington. High school seniors with a minimum grade point average of 3.0 and who are fluent in Spanish are eligible to apply. Applications are available at: <http://www.pacificare.com/>. **Deadline: June 30.**

Publications

Math, Science, and Technology: Essential Skills for Career Success in the 21st Century.

This information brief provides a checklist for youth service practitioners to share with students as they explore careers of interest. The brief highlights the importance of math, science, and technology coursework in preparing young adults for top growing careers. To access the brief visit: http://www.ncwd-youth.info/assets/info_briefs/infobrief_issue7.pdf.

Students in Service to America. This guidebook provides ideas for adults-teachers, parents, and after school providers to assist them in finding and creating opportunities for young people to answer the President's Call to Service. For more information visit:

<http://www.learnandserve.org/resources/index.html>.

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Technical Assistance Update for April 23, 2004

Check Out theses “Free Resources!”

Banking On Our Future is an online financial literacy curriculum for youth sponsored by Operation HOPE, Inc., a nonprofit social investment banking organization, and the Wells Fargo Bank. A classroom component is also available. For more information visit: <http://www.bankingonourfuture.org/>.

Electric Money sponsored by PBS by Oregon Broadcasting, explores the history of money and how the digital revolution has transformed financial activity. Five interdisciplinary teaching units with lesson plans may be downloaded and a video version of the original broadcast can be ordered. For more information visit: <http://www.pbs.org/opb/electricmoney/index.html>.

Global Knowledge Resource is a database of global knowledge on youth employment that provides a communication medium where stakeholders of youth employment can share and access innovative initiatives, useful toolkits, research, and publications. For more information visit: <http://www.yesweb.org/gkr/index.html>.

Websites

Jump\$tart Coalition for Personal Financial Literacy website maintains a clearinghouse of resources from a variety of education providers. For more information visit: <http://www.jumpstart.org>.

Consumer Jungle is a web-based program designed to assist high-school students become responsible and informed consumers. The curriculum covers a variety of topics such as credit cards, transportation, living on your own, personal finances, telecommunications, and e-commerce fraud. For more information visit: <http://www.consumerjungle.org>.

Child Trends website provides information on science-based research to improve the decisions, programs, and policies that affect children and their families. To access the website visit: <http://www.childtrends.org>.

About Our Kids website connects parents and youth workers to critical information about child mental health and behavior. For more information visit: <http://www.aboutourkids.org/>.

American Association of School Administrator’s Center for Best Practices website provides access to various tools, resources and proven best practices which focuses on the No Child Left Behind Act. For additional information visit: <http://www.aasa.org/NCLB/>.

Achieve.org website was created by the nation's governors and corporate leaders to help states raise academic standards, improve assessments, and strengthen accountability to prepare all young people for postsecondary education, work, and citizenship. For additional information visit: <http://www.achieve.org/>.

AskABLE web site is a one-stop shop of disability information for postsecondary professionals. Its goal is to support the recruitment, retention, and placement of students with disabilities to improve their educational outcomes, by providing users with live expert advice. For additional information visit: <http://askable.askvrd.org/index.asp>.

America's Literacy Directory website contains a compendium of literacy programs available in every state and territory that strengthens the link between literacy services and job training programs. For more information visit: <http://www.literacydirectory.org/>.

Calendar of Events

April 28-May 1. Portland, OR. National League of Cities, Institute for Youth, Education & Families. Sixth Biennial National Conference on Your City's Families. Contact: (202) 626-3000, ext. 3072.

May 3-5. Atlanta, GA. Child Welfare League of America. Finding Better Ways Conference. Contact: (202) 639-4929.

May 3-6. Las Vegas, NV. Empowering ADA Coordinator: 2004 National Association of ADA Coordinators. For more information, go to: <http://janweb.icdi.wvu.edu/naadac/naadac/conferences.html>.

May 3-7. New York, NY. YAI/National Institute for People With Disabilities Annual International Conference (25th). For more information visit: <http://www.yai.org/pid.cfm>.

May 4. Ames, Iowa. Community Youth and Family Development Branch Youth and Shelter Services, Inc. and the Institute for Character Development, 19th Annual Risky Business Conference, "Community Youth Development--Be The Change!". For more information, go to: <http://www.yss.ames.ia.us/riskybusiness/>.

May 11-13. Washington, DC. The National Youth Development Practitioners Institute. Train-the-trainer for youth program practitioners. Contact Karen David at (888) 528-6725.

May 11-13 - Boise, ID; May 25-27 - Nashville, TN; June 15-17 - Minneapolis, MN. Juvenile Reintegration, Reentry & Community Aftercare Training Workshops. These trainings are available to SVORI sites only. For more information, call Barbara Mendenhall at JRAC (916) 278-6259, e-mail mendenhall@csus.edu, or go to: <http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/reentry/whatsnew.html#securing>.

May 12-15. Chicago, IL. Family Support America. 10th Biennial National Conference. Contact: (312) 338-0900.

May 12-15. San Antonio, TX. Association of Family and Conciliation Courts. 41st Annual Conference. Contact: (608) 664-3750.

May 23-25. Portland, Oregon. 13th Annual National Association of Workforce Development Professionals Conference. For more information, go to: <http://www.nawdp.org/conference.htm>.

June 7-11. Indianapolis, IN. The 2004 Mid-West Region Training Conference and National Juvenile Justice Summit. For more information, go to: <http://www.cwla.org/>.

June 24-26. Denver, Colorado. Achieving Positive Outcomes for Court-Involved Youth: Prevention, Education, and Transition. For more information, go to: http://www.edjj.org/nat_conf_2004.html.

July 19-21. San Antonio, TX. Workforce Innovations 2004. For more information visit: <http://www.workforceinnovations.org/>.

July 24-27. Washington, DC. National Leadership Conference for Youth with Disabilities. For more information, go to: <http://www.nyl.n.org/apply/2004conference.html>.

July 26-30. Washington, DC. 2004 Youth Career Skills Challenge. For more information contact Anne Stom at (202) 693-3377.

Youth Resource Connections. The Department of Labor (DOL), Employment and Training Administration (ETA) does not take responsibility for non endorsed DOL/ETA resources.

We welcome your input. Please let us know how these updates might be improved to better serve your needs. If you have comments contact the: Office of Youth Services at (202) 693-3037 or e-mail youth.services@dol.gov .

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